



HR0551

LRB098 13436 GRL 47956 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to honor the staff and administration of
4 BACKBONES for their work in raising awareness of spinal cord
5 injuries; and

6 WHEREAS, BACKBONES was created when the friends and family
7 of Reveca Torres started a fundraising campaign in order to
8 help pay for medical expenses after Ms. Torres suffered a
9 spinal cord injury; seeing the efforts of these wonderful
10 people, Ms. Torres realized the importance of a support system
11 to help reach one's goals after an injury, the impact that
12 others with similar injuries had on her, and the need for an
13 organization that could provide motivation and confidence to
14 those like her; and

15 WHEREAS, With support and guidance from friends, family,
16 and the community at large, Reveca Torres and co-founders
17 Veronica Gott, Patricia Mikicic, and Annie Gonzalez put a
18 long-time goal into motion and transformed BACKBONES into what
19 it is today: a place to connect with others with the purpose of
20 learning, teaching, and sharing; the organization provides
21 free support for people with spinal cord injuries and their
22 families by telephone, in-person, and on the internet; the
23 organization also encourages growth by the sharing of

1 experiences and ideas and creates an inviting atmosphere where
2 people can ask questions, learn from each other informally, and
3 make lasting friendships; and

4 WHEREAS, The members of the BACKBONES Board of Directors
5 are Christopher Hyldahl, Jacob Torres, Mona Pinon, Brittany
6 Raniere, and Eric Larson; the organization's Ambassadors are
7 Rachelle Chapman, Matthew Tilford, and Priscilla Hedlin; and

8 WHEREAS, It is especially important to recognize the great
9 work and efforts of the members of BACKBONES during the month
10 of September, which is National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness
11 Month; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
13 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
14 we honor the staff and administration of BACKBONES for their
15 work in raising awareness of spinal cord injuries and wish them
16 continued success in their future endeavors; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to the board of directors of BACKBONES as a symbol of
19 our esteem and respect.